

Little
10/634,094

In the Claims

1. (currently amended) Gutter mounting apparatus comprising:
 - a) a gutter mounted on an exterior surface of a building having a support for attaching said gutter to said exterior surface of said building;
 - b) a permanent member mounted on said gutter adapted to support a dismountable member for supporting seasonal decorations, said permanent member including a solid rod suspended on the outside of and spaced from said gutter;
 - c) said dismountable member adapted to slide or snap pop onto said rod; and
 - d) hooks spaced on an external surface of said dismountable member for suspending said seasonal decorations.
2. (previously presented) The apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein said permanent member comprises:
 - a) a U-shape connector comprising a distal edge spaced from an outer wall of said gutter, a downwardly extending wall from said distal edge attached to and supporting said rod, a top wall extending from said distal edge over a top edge of said outer wall of said gutter, and a downwardly extending wall adjacent an inner surface of said outer wall of said gutter;
 - b) a flange extending from said downwardly extending wall within said gutter, said flange having at least one recess;
 - c) said rod extending along a length of said U-shaped connector; and
 - d) a fastener extending through said recess and said gutter support for securing said permanent member to the gutter.
3. (previously presented) The apparatus as recited in claim 2, wherein said dismountable member is a tube having a channel extending along the length thereof, said channel having a shape and diameter corresponding to a shape and diameter of said rod, and said hooks are positioned along a circumference of said tube, wherein, upon aligning

Little
10/634,094

said tube with said U-shaped connector of said permanent member, said rod is received within said channel thereby mounting the ornamental structures to the structure.

4. (withdrawn) The apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein said permanent member comprises:

- a) a T-shaped connector;
- b) an extender extending from and perpendicular to a first end of said T-shaped connector; and
- c) a rod connected to said extender, said rod having a length substantially equal to a length of said connector, wherein an end of said T-shaped connector opposite said rod is secured to at least one of an underside of a roof of the structure and a wall of the structure.

5. (withdrawn) The apparatus as recited in claim 4, wherein said dismountable member is a tube having a channel extending along the length thereof, said channel having a shape and diameter corresponding to a shape and diameter of said rod, and said means for connecting ornamental structures is positioned along a circumference of said tube, wherein, upon aligning said tube with said T-shaped connector of said permanent member, said rod is received within said channel thereby mounting the ornamental structures to the structure.

6. (withdrawn) The apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein said permanent member comprises:

- a) a L-shaped connector;
- b) an extender extending from and perpendicular to a first end of said L-shaped connector; and
- c) a rod connected to said extender, said rod having a length substantially equal to a length of said connector, wherein an end of said L-shaped connector opposite said rod is secured to a wall of the structure.

Little
10/634,094

7. (withdrawn) The apparatus as recited in claim 6, wherein said dismountable member is a tube having a channel extending along the length thereof, said channel having a shape and diameter corresponding to a shape and diameter of said rod, and said means for connecting ornamental structures is positioned along a circumference of said tube, wherein, upon aligning said tube with said L-shaped connector of said permanent member, said rod is received within said channel thereby mounting the ornamental structures to the structure.

8. (withdrawn) The apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein said permanent member comprises:

- a) a connector that is substantially flat;
- b) an extender extending from and perpendicular to a first end of said connector; and
- c) a rod connected to said extender, said rod having a length substantially equal to a length of said connector, wherein said connector is secured to an underside of a structure.

9. (withdrawn) The apparatus as recited in claim 8, wherein said dismountable member is a tube having a channel extending along the length thereof, said channel having a shape and diameter corresponding to a shape and diameter of said rod, and said means for connecting ornamental structures is positioned along a circumference of said tube, wherein, upon aligning said tube with said connector of said permanent member, said rod is received within said channel thereby mounting the ornamental structures to the structure.

10. (withdrawn) The apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein said permanent member comprises:

- a) a T-shape connector,
- b) a block connector track having a channel extending therethrough, said block connector track extends from a first end of said T-shaped connector; and

Little
10/634,094

c) an aperture extending through said block connector track, said aperture extending along the length of said block connector track, wherein an end opposite said block connector track is secured to at least one of an underside of a roof and to a wall of the structure.

11. (withdrawn) The apparatus as recited in claim 10, wherein said dismountable member is comprises:

a) a block connector having a size and shape corresponding to a size and shape of said block connector track; and

b) an extender connected between said block and said means for connecting ornamental structures, wherein upon aligning said block connector with said block connector track of said T-shaped connector, said block connector is selectively received within said channel of said block connector track thereby mounting the ornamental structures to the structure.

12. (canceled)

13. (withdrawn) The apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein said means for connecting ornamental structures comprises a connection track having slot for receiving said ornamental structures extending along a length of said dismountable member.

14-15. (canceled)

16. (withdrawn) The apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein said permanent member further comprises a tube having a channel.

17. (withdrawn) The apparatus as recited in claim 16, wherein said dismountable member is a rod and said means for connecting ornamental structures is positioned along the length of said rod, wherein, upon aligning said rod with said channel of said permanent member, said rod is received within said channel thereby mounting the ornamental structures to the structure.

18. (previously presented) A method for mounting ornamental structures on a gutter attached to an outer wall of a building comprising the steps of:

Little
10/634,094

a) securing a permanent member to said gutter, the permanent member having a rod extending along a length thereof on an outside of and spaced from an outer wall of said gutter;

b) selectively connecting ornamental structures to a dismountable member, the dismountable member being a tube including a channel having a diameter and length corresponding with a diameter and length of the rod of the permanent member;

c) aligning the dismountable member with the permanent member; and

d) inserting the rod within the channel of the tube thereby mounting the ornamental structures on said gutter.

19. (withdrawn) A method for mounting ornamental structures comprising the steps of:

a) securing a permanent member to a structure, the permanent member having a tube with a channel extending along a length thereof;

b) selectively connecting ornamental structures to a dismountable member, the dismountable member is a rod having a diameter and length corresponding with a diameter and length of the channel of the permanent member;

c) aligning the dismountable member with the permanent member; and

d) inserting the rod within the channel of the tube thereby mounting the ornamental structures to the structure.

20. (currently amended) Gutter mounting apparatus comprising:

a) a gutter mounted on an exterior surface of a building having at least one support member extending from and adjacent an upper end of an outer wall of said gutter to said exterior surface for supporting said gutter on said exterior surface of said building;

b) a member permanently attached to said gutter to support a dismountable member for supporting seasonal decorations;

c) said permanently attached member comprising a horizontal flat section extending along a top edge of the outer wall of said gutter, a first downwardly extending

Little
10/634,094

wall from a distal edge of said flat section outside of said gutter spaced from the outer wall of said gutter, a horizontally extending rod suspended from and mounted along a bottom edge of said downwardly extending wall, a second downwardly extending wall from a proximate edge of said flat section within said gutter, and a flange attached to a bottom edge of said second downwardly wall;

d) said flange and support member having aligned recesses to accommodate a fastener for attaching said flange to said support member; and

e) a dismountable ~~dismountable~~ member for sliding on or snapping ~~pepping~~ onto said rod, said dismountable member having supports for said seasonal decorations.